provisons relating to grant, renewal and termination of prospecting licences and mining leases under the MMRD Act imposition of Royalty on Minerals; and interstate movements etc.

(c) Government is fully aware of the need for encouraging in flow of uptodate technology and foreign investment in the field of exploration and exploitation of minerals.

(d) The proposed amendments are unlikely to come up for consideration during the current session of the Parliament.

Loss suffered by BALCO

3930. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in the "Business Standard" of Calcutta of 4th December, 1992 under the heading "Audit Hammers BALCO Accounts";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the auditors of Public Sector Bharat Aluminium Company Limited have detected over a hundred discripancies in the company's annual accounts for the fiscal year 1992, if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) the extend of loss suffered by Bharat Aluminium Company Limited during the fiscal years 1990, 1991 and 1992;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the auditors of Bharat Aluminium Company Limited were removed from the panel of Statutory public sector auditors by CAG on previous two occassions if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The accounts of the Company for the year 1991-92 have yet to be finalized by the C & AG and approved at the Annual General Meeting. BALCO's accounts for the years 1989-90 and 1990-91 show a profit of Rs. 1.10 crores and Rs. 0.19 crores, respectively.

(e) The two joint Statutory Auditors appointed for the audit of BALCO for the year 1988-89 were not considered for re-appointment for audit of Accounts of the Company for the year 1989-90 and no other audits were given to them for a period of two years. One of the two Auditors appointed for audit of BALCO for the year 1989-90 was not re-appointed for audit of BALCO accounts for 1990-91 but the firm was given some other assignment.

3931. *[Transferred to 21st December, 1992]*

Safety Equipment Purchased by Hindustan Copper Limited

3932. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of purchases of safety equipments made by the Hindustan Copper Limited during the last two years for its workers and staff in their various installations;

(b) whether it is a fact that safety shoes are still not being supplied to the workers and staff; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The important purchases of safety items made by Hindustan Copper Limited during the last two years for its workers and staff are different types of boots, cap lamp, belts, helmets, hand gloves, dust respirators, etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.